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Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 06818 111957 Z

11
ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 SAJ-01 GAC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-09

H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01

SS-15 USIA-12 NEA-10 TRSE-00 NIC-01 MBFR-03 EB-11

OMB-01 ACDA-19 IO-12 RSR-01 (ADP) W
---------- 043936
R 111947 Z MAY 73
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5003
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW
AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
USMISSION BERLIN
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 06818

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, XG, GW, CZ
SUBJECT: FRG- CZECH NEGOTIATIONS

REF: BONN 5754

1. AT MAY 10 MEETING WITH AMBASSADOR, STATE SECRETARY FRANK EXPRESSED DISAPPOINTMENT OVER THE OUTCOME OF THE FIRST ROUND OF FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS IN PRAGUE, FROM WHICH HE HAD JUST RETURNED THE PREVIOUS DAY. DURING THE LAST MEETING IN BONN (REFTEL), FRANK SAID, THE TWO SIDES HAD AGREED ON A FRAMEWORK FOR THE TREATY. IN ADDITION, THEFRG THOUGHT THAT CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE, IF NOT ON PRECISE FORMULATIONS, AT LEAST ON
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PAGE 02 BONN 06818 111957 Z

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THE ESSENTIAL ELEMENTS OF THE TREATY-- IN PARTICULAR THE ARTICLE DEALING WITH THE INVALIDITY OF THE MUNIC AGREEMENT. HOWEVER, THE CZECH ATTITUDE AT THE NEGOTIATIONS IN PRAGUE HAD CALLED THIS INTO QUESTION. FRANK SAID, WITH OBVIOUS ANNOYNACE, THAT HE STILL COULD NOT COMPREHEND THE " EASTERN STYLE OF NEGOTIATIONS" IN WHICH NEGOTIATORS ARE IN EFFECT FORCED TO START OVER FROM THE BEGINNING IN EVERY NEW ROUND.

2. ACCORDING TO FRANK, THEY AGREED ON SEVERAL PARAGRAPHS OF THE PREAMBLE AND ALSO ON THE LANGUAGE FOR DECLARING THE INVALIDITY OF THE MUNICH AGREEMENT. HOWEVER, THEY FOUNDERED ON THE PROBLEM OF DEVISING LANGUAGE TO EXCLUDE LEGAL CONSEQUENCES WHICH MIGHT FLOW FROM THE MUNICH AGREEMENT' S INVALIDITY. THE FRG HAS MADE PRECISE PROPOSALS FOR THIS PURPOSE AND CONSIDERS THAT IT IS NOW UP TO THE CZECHS TO MAKE COUNTER- PROPOSALS IF THEY ARE NOT SATISFIED.

3. FRANK SAID THAT ONE SHOULD NOT BE TOO PESSIMISTIC ABOUT THE PROSPECTS. THE NEGOTIATIONS WERE NOW GOING TO BE A CONTINUING AFFAIR, AND THE NEXT ROUND WAS SET FOR MAY 23 IN BONN. HOWEVER, THE OPTIMISTIC STATEMENTS BEING MADE BY THE CZECH SIDE WERE NOT JUSTIFIED BY PRESENT CIRCUMSTANCES, AND WERE OBVIOUSLY DESIGNED TO PUT PRESSURE ON THE GERMANS, IN PARTICULAR ON THE FONOFF.

4. IN THIS CONNECTION, FRANK COMMENTED THAT HE THOUGHT THERE WAS NOW LESS OF A TENDENCY IN BONN (READ, IN THE CHANCELLOR' S OFFICE) TO HOLD ALLEGED FONOFF FOOT-DRAGGING AND LEGALISTIC THINKING RESPONSIBLE FOR DELAYS IN THE NEGOTIATIONS AND GREATER RECOGNITION OF THE DIFFICULTIES BEING MADE BY THE EASTERN SIDE. AS A CONSEQUENCE, HE THOUGHT THERE WOULD HENCEFORTH BE LESS PRESSURE ON HIM RATHER THAN MORE HE MADE NO PREDICTION AS TO WHEN THE NEGOTIATIONS MIGHT BE CONCLUDED.
HILLENBRAND

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Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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